

*Library*

LUDLOW RURAL DISTRICT

**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**Medical Officer Of Health**

for the year

1960





LUDLOW RURAL DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1960.



PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

Medical Officer of Health:

William Hall, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.Obst.  
R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

Ronald F. Saunders, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors.

G.S. Banks, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

L.D. Cowell, Cert. S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

---

CONTENTS OF REPORT.

Introduction.

Table of Vital Statistics.

Section A.	General and Local Statistics.
B.	Personal Health Services.
C.	Environmental Health Services.
D.	Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.
Appendix I.	Causes of Death.
II.	Inspections under Factory Acts.

---

Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2017 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29746140>

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
for the year ending 31st December, 1960.

LUDLOW.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Report on the Health of your District for the year 1960.

The Birth-rate, standardised for the district was 15.09, a figure rather lower than that for the Country as a whole which was 17.10 and for the County of Salop which was 16.20. It will be remembered that in 1959 the birth rate for the district was higher than the Country as a whole and also higher than the County.

The Death-rate also standardised for the district was 9.09, a figure which is lower than that for the County and much lower than the figure for the Country (11.5).

Notifications of Infectious Disease totalled 65 against 255 in 1959, the decrease being due to the low incidence of measles.

During the year 1960 steady progress was made in the Council's two major water schemes one of which, the South Eastern Parishes Scheme, is nearing completion.

From the public health viewpoint it is hoped that when the pressure of work arising from the water schemes eases, some progress may be made in the sphere of housing.

The Council have proposed and the Ministry approved, the provision of Old Persons Dwellings at Cleobury Mortimer, and every priority should be given to making a start with this project. There were at the 31st December, 65 old people out of 262 housing applicants, and the Cleobury Mortimer project will go a long way to satisfying the demand for this type of accommodation.

The provision of houses for other needs, in particular slum clearance, must receive consideration. The cost of building does not make the provision of 3 bedroomed houses easy, and a solution might be found in building a number of small units of accommodation; flats in blocks of four, some with one, some with two bedrooms. These units of accommodation are admirable for couples and small families, and if tenants under occupying the three bedroomed houses can be transferred, thus releasing the bigger houses for applicants with larger families, the housing problem will be largely solved in an economical way, in that the one and two bedroomed flats can be built to be let economically at a rent which the tenants can afford to pay.

My thanks are due to Mr. Saunders and the staff of the Health Department for their willing help at all times, and for providing most of Section C of this Report, and to Mr. Shaw for providing information on the position of the Water Supply Schemes at 31st December, being the remainder of Section C; and to the County Medical Officer of Health for allowing me to publish the information in Section B.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM HALL

Medical Officer of Health.



SECTION A.

GENERAL AND LOCAL STATISTICS.

1960.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

Birth-rate	17.1
Still Birth-rate	19.8
Infant Mortality Rate	21.9
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	15.6
Perinatal Mortality Rate	32.9
Death-rate	11.5

VITAL STATISTICS FOR COUNTY OF SALOP.

Birth-rate (Standardised)	16.20
Still birth Rate	23.53
Infant Mortality Rate	19.40
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	14.70
Perinatal Mortality Rate	36.90
Death-rate (Standardised)	10.71

STATISTICS FOR LUDLOW RURAL DISTRICT.

Area (in acres)	112,823
Registrar-General's estimate of the population (mid 1960)	13,640
Number of inhabitable houses at 31.12.60.	4317
Rateable Value of the District	£115,578
Estimated product of ld. Rate	£454

	M.	F.	Total
Live Births -- Legitimate	86	82	168
Illegitimate	6	5	11
	<u>92</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>179</u>

Live Birth-rate per 1,000 of the population	= Crude	13.12
	= Standardised	15.09

	M.	F.	Total
Still Births - Legitimate	7	1	8
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>8</u>

Still Birth-rate per 1,000 total births = 42.24

Deaths of Infants under one year of age -	Number of deaths	Rate per 1,000 live births
(a) All infants per 1,000 total livebirths	-	-
(b) Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	-	-
(c) Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	-	-
(d) Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks	-	-
(e) Deaths of Infants under 1 week	-	-
(f) Perinatal Mortality	-	- per 1,000 total live and stillbirths

	M.	F.	Total
Deaths	82	52	134
Death rate per 1,000 of the population	= Crude	9.67	
	Standardised	9.09	



### Population.

The Registrar-General's estimated figure of the population in the Rural District at the 30th June, 1960 was 13,640. This was 30 less than the estimated figure for the previous year.

### Births.

Live births numbered 179 (Legitimate - 168, Illegitimate - 11) giving a 'Crude' birthrate of 13.12. Applying the comparability factor of 1.15 the corrected birth-rate becomes 15.09.

### Still Births.

There were eight still births and this gives a still birth rate of 42.24 against the rate for the Country as a whole which is 19.7. The figures upon which the still birth-rate is calculated are so small that the rate has little significance especially when regard is paid to the following paragraph.

### Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

No deaths were reported of children under the age of one year. The Infantile Mortality Rate is therefore, nil. The Infantile Mortality Rate for the country is 21.7

### Deaths.

The total number of deaths registered was 134 (male 82, female 52). This gives a 'Crude' Death-rate of 9.67 when the comparability factor of 0.94 is applied the comparable death rate becomes 9.09. Figures showing the chief causes of deaths will be found at the end of the Report.

### Natural Increases of Population.

The number of live births exceeds the total number of deaths by 45.

## SECTION B.

### Personal Health Services.

These Services are provided by the County Council under the authority of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

#### Care of Mothers and Young Children.

##### (a) Child Welfare Centres.

Child Welfare Centres are provided in Ludlow and Cleobury Mortimer and are held as follows:-

Cliftonville, Dinham, Ludlow.	:	Every Monday
East Hamlet Hall, Ludlow.	:	Every Thursday
Parish Hall, Cleobury Mortimer	:	1st and 3rd Wednesdays in each month

Attendances at these Welfare Centres during 1960 were as follows:-

Welfare Centre	Made first attendance when under 1 year	Total Cases	Total Attendance
Ludlow (Dinham)	83	211	969
Ludlow (East Hamlet)	38	69	519
Cleobury Mortimer	32	116	748

An ante-natal clinic is also held at the Ludlow Child Welfare Centre every Monday, being conducted by one of the County Council's Assistant Medical Officers. The Ludlow District Nurse-Midwives hold their own ante-natal clinic at the Centre on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoons each month.

It is impossible to give any indication in the table above of how many of the children attending the Ludlow Centre are children from the Rural District, and one must assume that the majority are from the Borough.

##### (b) Care of Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children.

A Moral Welfare Worker employed by the Hereford Diocesan Association to whom an annual grant is paid by the County Council, is based in Ludlow and works throughout the Rural District. The Worker concerned is Miss G. Leslie of 17, Steventon New Road, Ludlow. (Tel. No. Ludlow 257).

The County Council also gives substantial grants to two Mother and Baby Homes affiliated to the Lichfield Diocese, but within the County, to which cases from any County District may be admitted.

The County Council also has contractual arrangements with Herefordshire for the admission of cases to the Hereford Mother and Baby Home.

### (c) Distribution of Welfare Foods .

People living in Ludlow Rural District normally obtain National Welfare Foods (National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, Codliver Oil and Vitamin Tablets) at the County Councils Welfare Centre, Dinham, Ludlow on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday mornings. For those people living some distance from Ludlow arrangements exist whereby National Welfare Foods are distributed by Voluntary Workers from distribution points in the following districts:- Clee Hill, Clee St. Margaret, Cleobury Mortimer, Craven Arms and Munslow .

### Midwifery .

The County Council employ a total of eleven midwives in the Ludlow Rural District and two of this number also operate in the Borough. Throughout the whole area they undertake district nursing as well as midwifery duties .

The following table gives details of the midwifery work carried out by these midwives during 1960:-

Nursing District	Total Confinements	Total Domiciliary Visits	Attendances on Discharged Institutional Cases	
			Cases	Visits
Burford	7	185	11	83
Church Stretton	28	805	38	184
Clee Hill *	9	271	6	21
Cleobury Mortimer	16	466	33	93
Craven Arms	13	387	11	46
Ludlow	27	775	81	321
Munslow	9	253	12	65
Stoke St. Milborough	3	80	22	91

( \* Covered by Nurse for Burford Area ).

The Nursing Districts comprising groups of parishes, do not conform to the Rural District Boundary and the figures given above therefore in some cases (Church Stretton and Ludlow) will include many cases from outside the Ludlow Rural District.

### Health Visiting .

Two full-time Health Visitors are employed by the County Council in the Ludlow Rural District and one of these (Miss G.L. Ward) who is based in Ludlow also undertakes health visiting in the Borough .

### Home Nursing .

As stated above the midwives employed by the County Council in the Rural District undertake the home nursing duties .

Only in the Borough of Ludlow itself does the County Council employ a Home Nurse solely to undertake these duties .



Cases attended and visits made during 1960 were as follows:-

Nursing District	Home Nursing Cases	Visits
Burford	30	528
Church Stretton	381	5129
Clee Hill *	41	890
Cleobury Mortimer	111	1661
Craven Arms	144	2757
Ludlow	152	3964
Munslow	77	798
Stoke St. Milborough	38	552

(\* Covered by Nurse for Burford Area.)

#### Vaccination and Immunisation.

Protection is offered, in particular to pre-school children, school children and in special circumstances to others, against Smallpox, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis and to children of and above the age of thirteen years against Tuberculosis.

The immunisation procedure is carried out in many cases by General Medical Practitioners, and by School Medical Officers in Clinics and Schools.

The tables below give the numbers of children from the Rural District who have availed themselves of the facilities offered.

#### VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION 1960.

		County Council Medical Officers	General Practitioners	Totals
Diphtheria	Primary	47	134	181
	Boosters	75	153	328
Whooping Cough				
Primary		25	158	183
Smallpox	Performed	15	121	136
	Successful	14	117	131
Tetanus				
Primary		3	76	79
Poliomyelitis	1st & 2nd Injections	507	231	738
	3rd Injections	920	178	1098

B.C.G. VACCINATION - 1960.

SCHOOL	CONSENT FORMS GIVEN OUT	REFUSALS	NUMBER OF CONSENTS PRESENTED	NUMBER OF CHILDREN SKIN TESTED	SKIN TEST READINGS		NUMBER VACCINATED
					POS.	NEG.	
Hill House School, Culmington.	19	-	19	17	3	14	14
Cleobury Mortimer Modern	81	2	79	77	11	63	63
City of Coventry	34	1	33	33	2	31	30
Millichope	10	-	10	10	4	6	6
Brondon	8	-	8	8	2	6	6
Munslow	3	-	3	3	-	3	3
Diddlebury	9	1	8	8	1	7	7
Onibury	8	-	8	7	1	6	6

### Ambulance Service.

The Central Ambulance Station is in Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury (Tel. No. Shrewsbury 6331).

There is a local Ambulance Depot in Ludlow where three ambulances and two dual purpose vehicles are based.

Drivers are on call and can be called out at any time during the day or night.

One dual purpose vehicle is kept at a garage in Craven Arms for local convenience.

During 1960 these six vehicles made 3,547 journeys carrying 9,411 patients a total distance of 146,125 miles.

Arrangements for calling out ambulances are normally made through doctors and hospitals but in emergency calls from anyone are put through to the Central Ambulance Station and appropriate arrangements made.

### Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.

(a) All home nurses and midwives hold a small supply of minor articles of nursing equipment such as hot water bottles, air rings, bed pans and feeding cups, for loan to patients being nursed at home.

(b) The treatment of Tuberculosis falls to Regional Hospital Boards to provide in the way of Sanatoria and Chest Clinics, but the preventive and after care side of the work is shared between the Hospital Boards and Local Health Authorities. The County Council for their share provide open-air Shelters where required. They also join with Regional Boards in making from time to time local arrangements for Mass Miniature Radiography Surveys, and through their Health Visitors undertake a considerable amount of follow-up work with patients. Extra nourishment may in necessitous cases be provided.

(c) Arrangements are made under this section for the convalescence of persons not requiring special medical or nursing care.

(d) Through their Mental Welfare Officers and Health Visitors the County Council are responsible for the supervision in their own homes of mentally handicapped persons and also for helping general medical practitioners to secure hospital treatment for those persons who become mentally nbalanced.

### Domestic Help.

The County Council provides a fairly comprehensive Domestic Help Service through branch offices.

The greater part of this area is served from the Ludlow Home Help Office which is open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons. A small section in the north, however, is served from the Church Stretton Home Help Office which opens on Monday mornings and Thursday afternoons.

During the year ended 31st December, 1960, the services of the County Council's Home Helps directed from the Ludlow Office were made available in 68 homes in the Borough and Rural District. In 56 cases the help was provided for the benefit of aged and chronic sick persons, in one case help was needed on account of temporary illness, in a further 6 homes domiciliary confinements had occurred, and 3 post operative and 2 tuberculous cases were helped.



## Hospital Service.

In addition to the Services provided by the County Council under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, the Hospital and Specialist Services provided by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board must be briefly mentioned.

The District is served principally by the hospitals under the No. 15 Hospital Management Committee centred at the Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury. The Ludlow and District Hospital and East Hamlet Hospital serve local needs and Specialist Clinics or Out-Patient Sessions are held at these hospitals as follows:-

Clinic or Out-Patient Session	East Hamlet Hospital	Ludlow & District Hospital	Consultant
Orthopaedic	2nd & 4th Mondays 1-30 p.m.-3.30 p.m.		
Obstetric & Gynaecological	-	Wednesdays 2 p.m.	Mr.S.Burke
Surgical	-	Wednesday fortnightly 9 a.m.	Mr.J.A.Baty
Medical	-	Mondays 2.30p.m. Wednesday fortnightly 10 a.m.	Dr.A.W.J. Houghton. Dr.W.D. Wallace.
E.N.T.	-	Monday fortnightly 1.30 p.m.	Mr. E.N. Owen.
Paediatric	-	Third Tuesday in month 2.0 p.m.	Dr. J.C. Macaulay.
Psychiatric	-	Thursdays 2.0 p.m.	Dr. M.J. Brookes.
Radio Therapy	-	1st Saturday in month 10.30 a.m.	Dr. E.J. Richardson.

A Chest Clinic is held on the third Tuesday in each month at 11.0 a.m. at the Child Welfare Centre, Dinham, Ludlow. Although this clinic is provided by the Regional Hospital Board it is for convenience held at the County Councils Centre.

Cases from the District are admitted to the Royal Salop Infirmary, The Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital and Copthorne Hospital, whilst a small number of Infectious Diseases requiring hospital care under a paediatrician are admitted to Monknoor Children's Hospital.

Tuberculosis cases requiring in-patient treatment are admitted to Shirlett Hospital.

## Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Salop Infirmary is extensively used for the bacteriological examination of water, milk and ice cream.

Chemical analyses of water samples and sewage effluents are made by the Public Analyst at Warrington.

Good Laboratory facilities are very necessary to the work of the Health Department, and I should like to express my thanks to Dr. A.C. Jones of the Shrewsbury Laboratory and his staff for their assistance, in particular perhaps for their invaluable advice when some bacteriological or epidemiological problem arises.

## SECTION C.

### Environmental Health Services.

#### 1. Water Supply Schemes.

The following was the position at 31st December, 1960.

##### South Eastern Parishes Water Supply Scheme.

Contract II. This scheme comprising the provision of a reservoir at Whitcliffe and distribution mains in the parishes of Ashford Carbonell, Ashford Bowdler and Richards Castle (Salop) was completed in December 1960 with the exception of minor works in connection with the completion of the reservoir.

Contract III. During the year work was started on the provision of reservoirs at Cleobury Mortimer and Caynham and mains were laid in the parishes of Cleobury Mortimer, Milson, Nash and Caynham.

##### Western Area Water Supply Scheme.

Contract IV. Work was started during the year on the provision of distribution mains in the Parish of Bromfield.

Contract V. Work was started during the year on the provision of a reservoir at Elsie Barn and distribution mains were laid in the parishes on Munslow, Diddlebury and Culmington.

##### Joint High Level Water Supply Scheme.

Details of this scheme have been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the holding of a Public Enquiry is still awaited.

#### 2. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

##### (a) Water Supplies.

##### Purity of Supplies.

The undermentioned samples were taken for bacteriological examination from public supplies in the area.

Source.	Total No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Birmingham Aqueduct	5	3	2
Bitterley	5	4	1
Burford	5	4	1
Clee Hill	5	5	0
Clee St. Margaret (Council Houses)	7	3	4
Clee St. Margaret - Well.	6	3	3
Cleobury Mortimer	6	5	1
Coreley	5	5	-
Craven Arms	4	4	-
Culmington	4	4	-
Diddlebury	4	4	-
Hope Bowdler	4	3	1
Longville-in-the-Dale	4	4	-
Middleton	5	4	1
Munslow	5	5	-
Onibury	4	4	-
Seifton	4	3	1
St. Milburgha's Well	5	3	2
Ticklerton	5	3	2
Wall-under-Heywood	4	4	-
Totals..	96	77	19



In addition, the following samples were taken from prospective public supplies:-

<u>Source</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Cornbrook	9	7	2
Soudley	1	-	1
Totals.....	10	7	3

In the main, the public supplies were satisfactory. The unsatisfactory samples from the Elan Valley Aqueduct were taken from an area now included in part of the South Eastern Parishes scheme. The water from this area is now being chlorinated. The unsatisfactory samples from the Clee St. Margaret bore were taken towards the end of the year. Pollution was apparently caused when work was done to the bore.

Eighty four samples were taken from private supplies. Of these, 15 were satisfactory and 69 unsatisfactory.

Nine samples had been taken from Cornbrook Adit up to the time when the Council decided against the use of this supply for the proposed Joint High Level Scheme. Seven of these were satisfactory.

Work has progressed on the Western Area and South Eastern Parishes water supply schemes and many more properties are now enjoying an improved water supply. Some exemption certificates under the Food Hygiene Regulations have already been cancelled as a result of mains water having been made available by the Western Area Scheme.

(b) Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Ashford Carbonell.

Slow progress has been made in this village in converting existing closets to water closets. Now that main sewers and mains water supply are available to the majority of the houses, it is reasonable to expect the provision of a water closet. The Council have agreed to the payment of grant of £25 per conversion but by the 31st December 1960 only 12 closets had been converted with this aid. The department is not at present able to spare the time to approach all owners re closet conversions and sewer connections, but this is work which needs to be dealt with at the earliest opportunity.

Clee Hill.

In general the remarks regarding Ashford Carbonell also apply to Clee Hill. Only five closets had been converted by the 31st December 1960 with the assistance of grant. The Spring Farm extension was carried out during the year. This will allow more properties to be connected in due course.

Private Drainage.

Following much informal action, service of Statutory Notices was authorised by the Council at the beginning of the year to compel an owner in the Southern part of the district to carry out drainage works at a group of three cottages. However, at the last moment the work was carried out without the need for formal notices.

Other cases of unsatisfactory drainage systems were dealt with informally.

(c) Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The collection arrangements started some years ago were continued during the year, but the Council decided in April to purchase a second vehicle so that the collection service could be improved. This vehicle, a Shelvoke and Drewry Fore and Aft Tipper, was delivered in early December.

After repainting and overhaul of the existing Austin/Eagle the new collection arrangements using the two vehicles were commenced on 2nd January, 1961. The improved service provides the same service for Cleobury Mortimer and Craven Arms, i.e. four times in every five weeks and improves the service for the remainder of the district to once every two weeks.

Four tips are still used for disposal of refuse. Unfortunately at the end of the year the Council were given notice to quit the Woofferton Tip, the notice to expire in June, 1961. Bulldozing and covering with sawdust and soil has been carried out to a limited extent at Craven Arms and Cleobury Mortimer. Regular treatments for the control of rats have been carried out. During the summer regular treatment was also given for the control of flies. This was especially necessary at Craven Arms Tip.

(d) Rodent Control.

During the year the rodent control service was maintained as in previous years. Under these arrangements the operative, Mr. F. Mear, carries out work for the Church Stretton Urban District Council six weeks during the year, viz. one week every two months.

In the Ludlow Rural District the number of contracts held on the 31st December, 1960 was 68 the total value being £544. This is the highest value since 1956. A large area of the district was surveyed during the year, mainly in the North Eastern and Central parts of the district. All parts of the district are surveyed about once every two years.

(e) Factories & Workshops.

Of a total of 82 factories in the district 69 are factories with mechanical power and 13 factories without mechanical power. Only 6 visits were made during the year. Contraventions were found in 5 cases and written notices served. Although the number of factories and workshops in the district is small, it is a matter of importance that proper sanitary conditions for the workers should be maintained.

(f) Inspection by the Public Health Inspectors.

Housing (Public Health Housing & Rent Acts).	770
Meat Inspection	597
Water Supplies	226
Refuse Collection & Disposal	186
Drainage	163
House Allocation	138
Food Premises & Food Inspection	122
Moveable Dwellings	86
Infectious diseases	23
Miscellaneous	75
Total.....	<u>2386</u>

One hundred and thirteen informal notices were served during the year. It has not yet been possible to check whether all the work required by these notices has been carried out but it is known that much has been done. As soon as possible reinspections which are necessary in some cases will be made.



### 3. Housing.

(a) Number of inhabitable houses, including Council Houses and business premises with living accommodation as at 1st January, 1960

4334

#### Additions.

Number of houses constructed during 1960

(a) Council houses.	0
(b) Private houses.	6

Number of additional houses provided by the conversion of older houses

2

Number of houses brought back into use as a result of complying with undertakings

2  
4344

#### Deductions.

Number of houses (1) Closed	15
(2) Demolished	12

Number of inhabitable houses, including Council houses and business premises with living accommodation as at 31st December, 1960.

4317

#### Miscellaneous Details.

(a) Number of Council houses as at 31st December, 1960	453
(b) Number of applications for Council houses as at 31st December, 1960	262
(c) Number of defective houses rendered fit as a result of informal action under the Public Health or Housing Acts.	7

#### (i) House Allocation.

The Public Health Inspectors Department continued work in connection with house allocation. In all 138 visits were made to interview housing applicants and investigate their living conditions. Some visits were also paid to obtain information for outside Authorities. Conversely, many visits were made by the Officers of other Authorities where applicants resided outside the Ludlow Rural District.

During the year the Tenancies Committee allocated 19 houses and flats which became vacant as a result of removals and two new flats resulting from the reconstruction of 4, Church Street, Cleobury Mortimer. The Committee also agreed to various transfers of tenancy.

When the review of the waiting list was completed in January, 1960, there were 176 applications for dwellings including 45 from old people, i.e. 31%. The figures at 31st December 1960 were:-

Total number of applications	262
Number of applications from old people	65
i.e. 24.8%	

In addition to the demand for new houses as demonstrated by the Housing List, in the report to the Housing Committee on the results of the housing survey in November, 1960, it was estimated that 71 houses and 52 old peoples dwellings would be required to re-house families from unfit houses which require demolition, or closure.



A Sub-Committee of the Council's Housing and Planning Committee is now considering a new building programme to deal with this problem.

(ii) Housing Conditions.

The housing survey was completed during the year by the inspection of a further 299 houses in the parishes of Abdon, Ashford Carbonell, Bitterley, Caynham, Clee St. Margaret, Coreley, Eaton-under-Heywood, Holdgate, Hopton Wafers, Milson, Munslow, Neen Sollars, Stoke St. Milborough, Tugford and Wheathill.

A total of 687 houses were inspected, but of these condemnation action has been taken regarding 62. During the survey ten derelict houses were discovered and it was found that seven had been demolished by owners. The results of the survey were presented to the Council in November. To give the facts briefly, of the 608 remaining houses 185 have been listed for demolition or closure and a further 62 for further consideration.

Details of these houses are as follows:-

Only 51 had water closets and 41 baths.  
397 had unsatisfactory drainage  
and 96 no drainage at all.  
Only 217 had piped water in the house.

Much work needs to be done in the housing field, but at present any extension of work could only be undertaken at the expense of other duties. Informal action proves to be of little worth without being able to follow up the matter strongly within a reasonable time.

(iii) Action under the Housing Acts and the Rent Acts.

The following is a summary of statutory action taken during the year regarding unfit houses.

Number of houses closed under the terms of Closing Orders.	13
Number of houses closed under the terms of Undertakings given by owners.	2
Number of houses demolished.	12
Number of houses made fit and undertakings cancelled.	2

Informal action:

Number of houses made fit as a result of informal action.	7
---	---

Rent Act, 1957.

No applications for certificates of disrepair were received. Only one application for a certificate to be cancelled was made. This was granted. This Act seems now to be virtually a dead letter so far as this district is concerned.

(iv) Moveable Dwellings.

Caravan Licensing was changed with the introduction of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. Whereas a licence under the Public Health Act, 1936 could be granted even if Planning Permission had been refused, it is now necessary under the new Act for the applicant to obtain Planning Permission before a 'site' licence can be issued.

Also introduced by this Act are Model Standards relating to the provision of drainage, water supply, sanitary conveniences, fire precautions etc. This Council adopted standards as long ago as March, 1958 which covered most of the points now dealt with in the Model Standards.

In the past licensing of sites under the Public Health Acts has been carried out in the majority of cases. Many caravans previously unlicensed have recently had to be visited as some of the exemptions under the old law have now been altered. There are still, however, many exemptions. One use which is exempt and which applies particularly in this district, is very limited casual use of single caravans.

#### 4. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

##### (a) Meat Inspection.

The number of licensed slaughterhouses in the district is still three. The increase in the number of animals slaughtered and inspected during 1960 was more than double the 1959 increase, but again mainly at the Shropshire Fatstock Society's Abattoir at Craven Arms. A total of 91,989 animals were slaughtered compared with 75,534 in 1959. This total for 1960 (91,989) is more than double the 1956 figure (41,963).

Sunday work continued during most of the year and for a time during the Summer months slaughtering commenced at mid-night on Saturday and continued until about 1.0 p.m. on Sunday. Considerably more evening overtime work has been carried out, sometimes as late as 9.0 p.m. This work has been shared by Mr. Banks and Mr. Cowell during the latter part of the year.

During the year Mr. Banks has continued to carry out full time meat inspection duties at the Craven Arms Abattoir. Grant is paid by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food as an aid to covering the cost of inspection of so called "export" meat, i.e. meat sent out of the district.

At the Shropshire Fatstock Society's Abattoir work was carried out to provide a deep freeze and to convert the hanging room into a chill room. This work was almost completed by the end of the year. The main use of the chill room is to reduce the temperature of the meat and to keep the temperature at an adequately low level, particularly during the warmer weather. In the past, at such times, a good deal of trouble was experienced with putrefaction and bone taint, particularly when, subsequently, meat was transported long distances by road.

After strong action by the Council regarding unsatisfactory storage and removal of waste matters a side loading refuse collection vehicle was purchased by the Society for the storage and removal of inedible offal. This vehicle was brought into use in December.

The Society is now purchasing a motor cesspool emptier so as to be able to make and control its own arrangements for emptying the large sludge tanks on the drainage system.

Many other matters at the Abattoir have been dealt with informally, but considerable effort is needed in most instances to bring about improvements.

##### Cysticercus Bovis.

Twenty-four cases of this condition were found during the course of routine meat inspection in 1960. This is a figure of 0.39% in cattle, excluding cows, and 0.09% in cows.

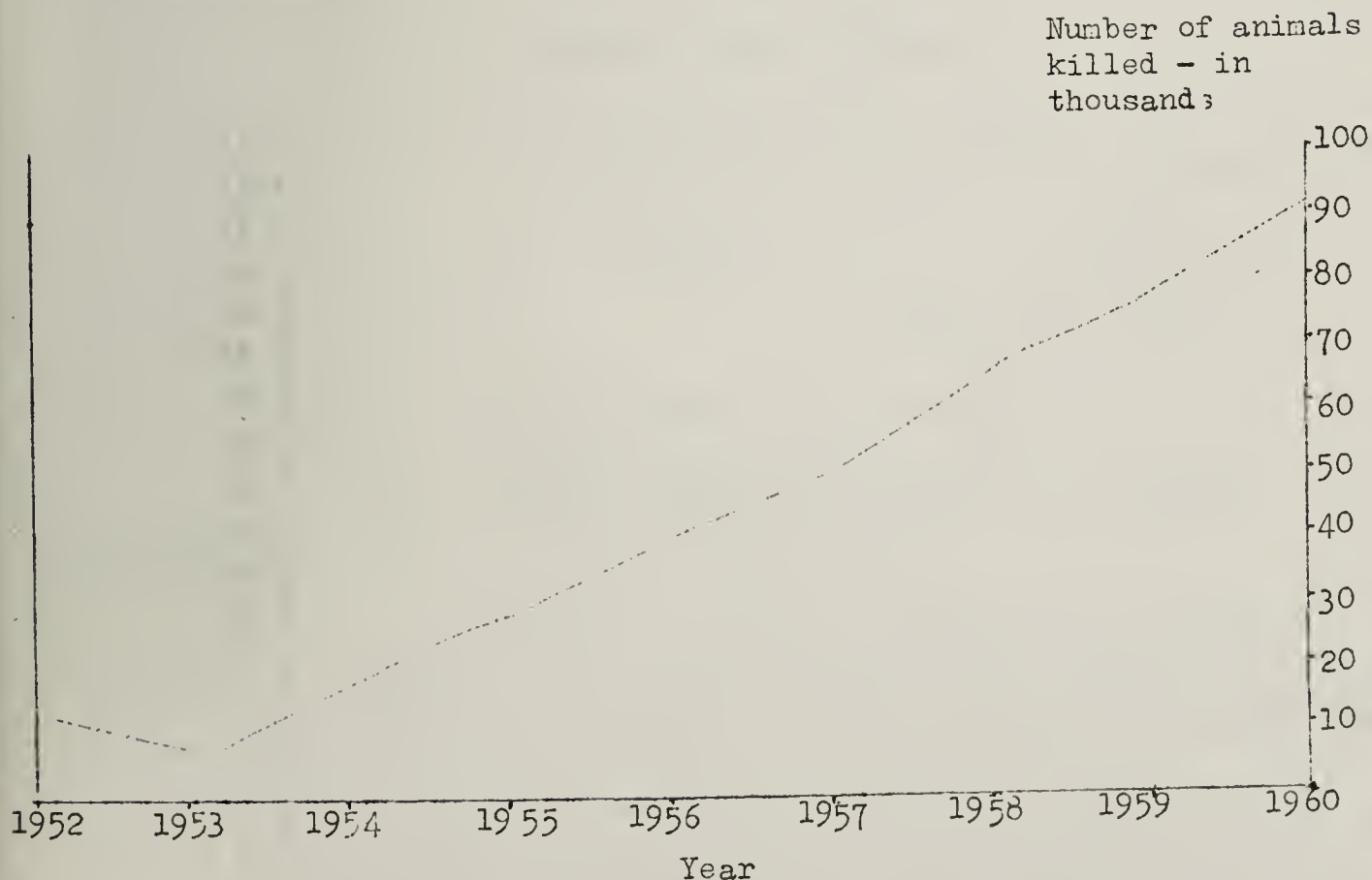


These figures are believed to be well below the average for the whole of the Country. Early in the year there were many cases of cysticercus bovis in cattle coming from land and buildings in proximity to the Ludlow Borough Council sewage works at Ludford. These cases were discovered when the cattle were slaughtered, in most instances in towns well away from Ludlow.

Meetings were held with the Public Health Inspector and the Medical Officer of Health, Ludlow Borough Council; also with the farmer concerned and with an officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Attempts were made to trace any person having a tapeworm (taenia saginata), but with no positive result so far as is known.

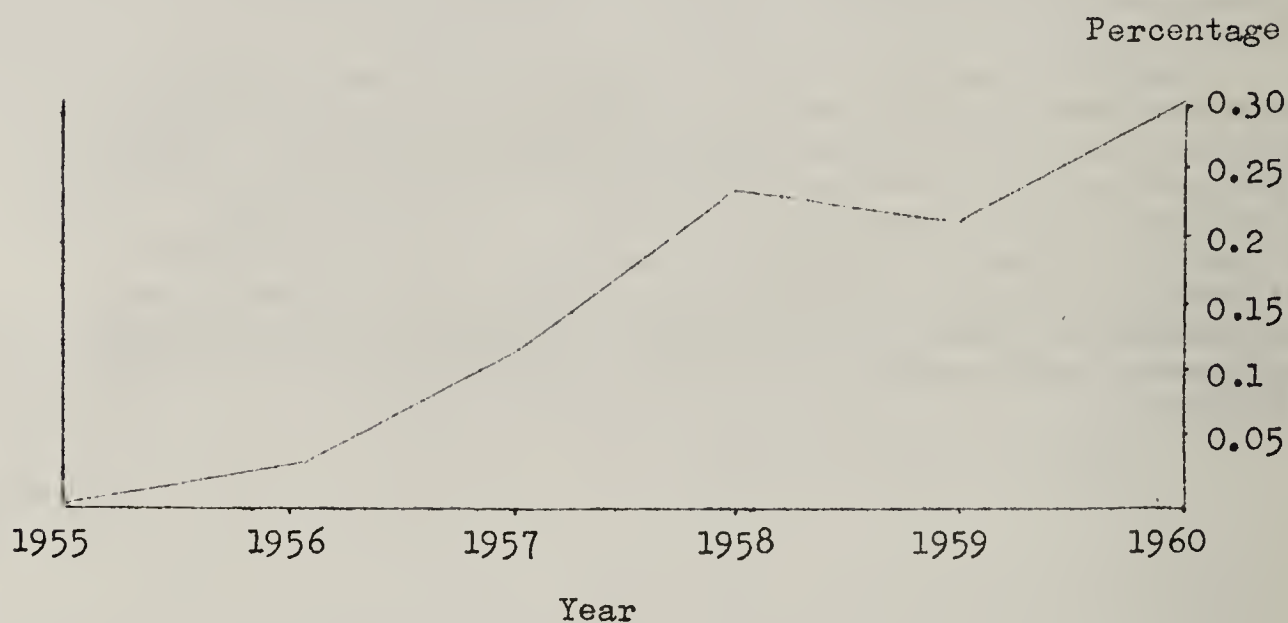
Reports have reached the Department that some cattle from other farms in this area have been found to be affected with cysticercus bovis when slaughtered in other districts. Whilst it is interesting to receive these reports it has been of no help in enabling positive action to be taken. It is felt that, nationally, a planned programme is needed. It is considered that such a programme might include compulsory notification and investigation of cases of cysticercus bovis, and also compulsory notification and treatment of cases of taenia saginata (tapeworm) in humans.

1. Graph showing increase in slaughtering in the district over the past nine years.



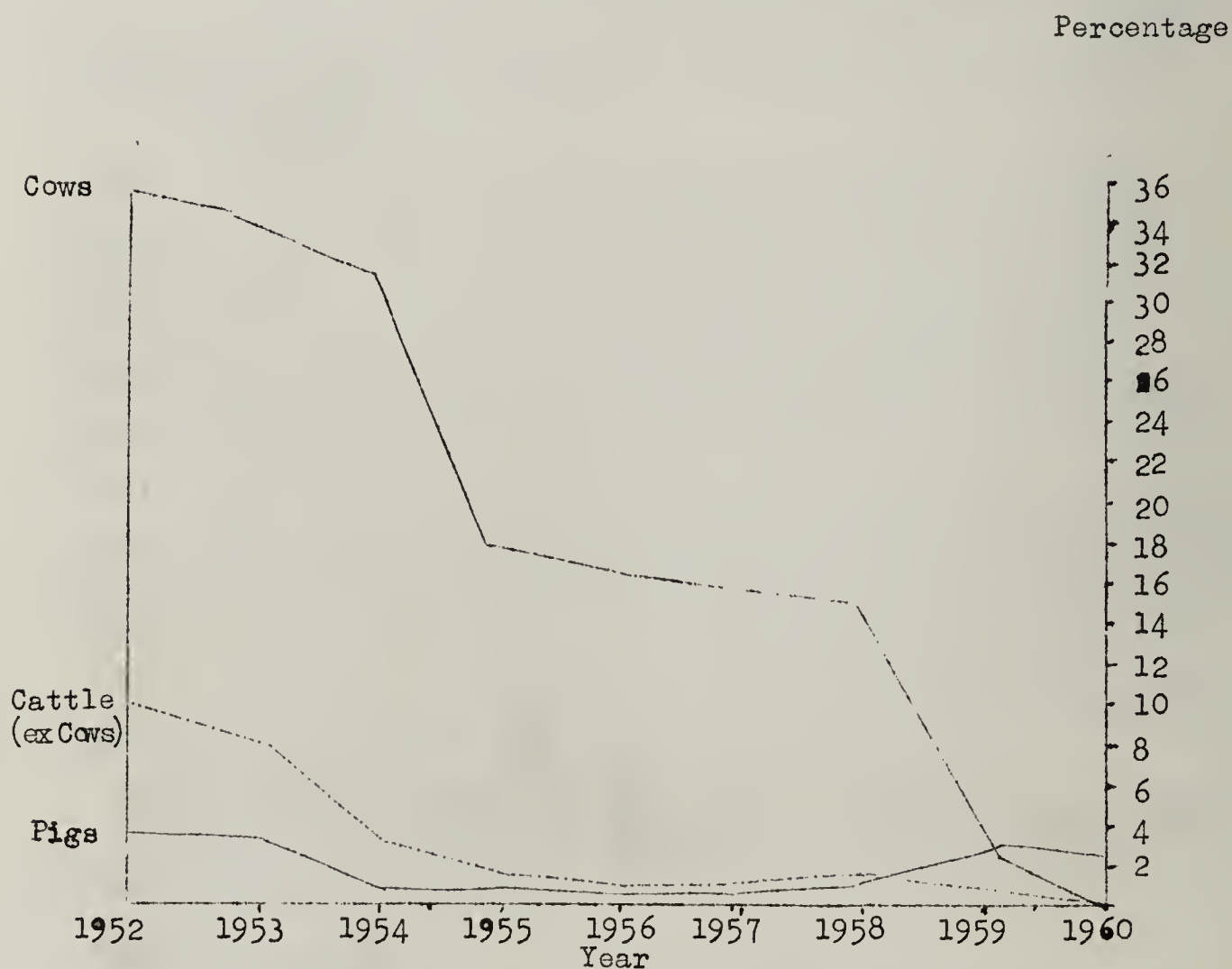
2.

Graph showing incidence of cysticercus bovis in cattle, including cows, over the past six years.



3.

Graph showing incidence of tuberculosis in cows, cattle (excluding cows) and pigs over the past nine years.



Animals Slaughtered and Carcasses Inspected in 1960.

	Cattle (Excluding Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Totals
Number killed	5660	2176	2420	52948	28785	91989
Number inspected	5660	2176	2420	52948	28785	91989

All diseases except  
Tuberculosis &  
Cysticercus Bovis.

Whole carcasses condemned	11	9	13	331	41	
Organs or parts condemned	2305	991	8	2371	3088	
Percentage affected	40.92	45.95	0.87	5.10	10.87	

Tuberculosis Only.

Whole carcasses condemned	--	--	--	1	2	
Organs or parts condemned	9	16	--	--	664	
Percentage affected	0.16	0.74	--	0.002	2.31	

Cysticercus Bovis  
Only.

Whole carcasses condemned	--	--	--	--	--	
Organs or parts condemned	22	2	--	--	--	
Percentage affected	0.39	0.09	--	--	--	

Weight of meat condemned:

1. On account of Tuberculosis	9449 lbs.
2. On account of Cysticercus Bovis	1545 lbs.
3. On account of other diseases	<u>69579 lbs.</u>
Total.....	<u>80573 lbs.</u>

= 35 Tons, 19 Cwts, 45 lbs.

Total number of animals killed = 91989

Tuberculosis.

As will be seen from the figures, the cases of tuberculosis continue to decrease. This is due mainly to the recently completed eradication scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The Ministry is notified of any cases found at slaughterhouses and investigation is made by Ministry Veterinary Officers. One sheep was found to be affected with tuberculosis. Such cases are quite a rarity. The average incidence of tuberculosis in sheep is considered to be in the region of one case per 100,000 animals.



(b) Poultry & Turkey Inspection.

The rearing, slaughtering and dressing of poultry and turkeys at one large station in the district has continued to increase during the year. Throughput is now in the region of 50,000 birds slaughtered per week. A new dressing line was installed during the year; this is excellent equipment of stainless steel construction and a very great improvement on what existed before.

Electrical methods of stunning are now available, but such stunning of poultry is not enforceable by law and is not carried out at The Grove.

Normally one visit a week is made to the premises for purposes of general inspection and also to pass judgment on detained carcasses. A check is also made on the disposal of carcasses unfit for human consumption.

Instruction has been given by one of the Inspectors to employees working on certain parts of the line on recognising various symptoms of disease and unsoundness which might render the carcasses unfit for human consumption.

This is considered the only practicable method of control in this district at the present time. It cannot, however, be regarded as wholly satisfactory.

The depot at The Grove, one of the largest in the country, was visited early in the year by Mr. Morley Parry, Food Hygiene Advisory Officer of the Ministry of Health. He is very experienced, having visited every major plant in this country and also in America.

During the year the plant was visited by a large party of the Midland Centre of the Association of Public Health Inspectors, following a meeting in Ludlow. On another occasion a party of members of the Council paid a visit.

An outbreak of fowl pest occurred at The Grove in the middle of the year. As a consequence, over 40,000 birds had to be slaughtered. Some affected, or contact, birds had reached the slaughtering and dressing line and complete sterilization had to be carried out.

(c) Food Hygiene.

(1) Food Hygiene Regulations.

Owing to other commitments, particularly housing work, little work was possible in this field during the year. However, a further 9 premises now comply in all respects so far as the Regulations relating to structural matters and equipment are concerned. It is much more difficult to enforce the Regulations affecting the personal habits and conduct of employees. This could only be done by regular and frequent supervision. With this point in mind, it is considered that every food premises should be inspected at least twice a year. Food hygiene work is necessary to give as much protection as possible to the Public.

Agreement was reached with one Brewery Company regarding outstanding works at their Public Houses in the District. Reluctance to carry out works was experienced in some cases where the premises concerned were in isolated positions. The owners considered that these licensed houses are not really worth keeping open even without the cost of repairs and improvements.

The new Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960, differ little from those of 1955, particularly so far as this district is concerned.



## (2) Food Poisoning.

An outbreak of Sonne Dysentery occurred during the Autumn at a large private school for boys, five cases were notified. Investigations were made and advice given. This outbreak immediately brought home to the Principals the need for full compliance with hygiene standards.

Although not considered to be the cause of this outbreak, it was found that the water supply at the school was not of satisfactory bacteriological standard. Endeavours are being made to effect an improvement.

### Diddlebury School.

An outbreak of suspected food poisoning occurred at this school towards the end of the year, involving 17 persons. Investigations were made including the taking of water, food and faeces specimens, but the cause of the outbreak was not established.

## (3) Supervision of Milk Supply.

One milk round in the Clee Hill area changed hands during the year. The new owner has been co-operative over public health requirements.

A change in legislation during the year has made the County Council the licensing Authority for the use of special designations in respect of milk. Previously this Council was the Authority. Administration of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations is still the responsibility of this Council.

### (d) Ice Cream.

The number of premises registered for the sale of ice-cream at the 31st December was 46, an increase of 2 during the year. Registration of one premises for the sale of prepacked ice-cream was granted subject to a written guarantee from the applicant to provide a wash-hand basin as required by Regulations. There is still one premises where cold mix ice-cream is manufactured occasionally. At other times this small producer purchases his requirements from one of the large manufacturers.

## 5. General.

### (a) Knackers Yards.

There are two yards in business in the district, both situated well away from built up areas. Regular inspections were carried out during the year. Conditions were found to be satisfactory.

### (b) Litter Act, 1958.

One informal notice was served under this Act on a dairyman operating in the Clee Hill area because of his unsatisfactory arrangements for the collection of milk bottles. Very large numbers of bottles were being left on the Common for quite considerable periods. The round was later sold. The new owner has not caused any trouble in this way.

### (c) Air Pollution.

Few visits were made regarding air pollution during the year. This is possibly not surprising in a Rural Area of this nature. It will be remembered, however, that considerable trouble was experienced in the Clee Hill area a few years ago as a result of dust emission from quarrying operations. This is a matter which is kept under review.

(d) National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act.

The maps showing footpaths and bridleways in the district have been revised, for some parishes, by the Salop County Council. Some informal notices were served during the year regarding the obstruction, or mis-use, of footpaths and bridleways in various parts of the district.

(e) Agriculture (Safety, Health & Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956.

As stated in my report regarding the staffing of the Department submitted to the Public Health Committee in the Autumn of 1960, no work has as yet been possible under this Act. The Act has now been in force over four years. There are over 600 farms or agricultural holdings in the district requiring inspection.

(f) New Legislation.

Below is a summary of new Acts and Regulations which came into force during the year and have not received mention elsewhere in this report.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960.

This Act came into force towards the end of the year. Under the Act certain noises or vibrations are considered Statutory Nuisances for the purposes of the Public Health Act, 1936.

The Meat (Staining and Sterilization) Regulations, 1960.

These Regulations cover the staining or sterilization of:-

- (a) Condemned meat from slaughterhouses and,
- (b) knacker meat.

Offices Act, 1960.

Regulations may be made under this Act for the protection of the health, safety and welfare of persons employed in offices. It is expected that such regulations will be made by the Minister in due course.

In conclusion, I would like to express my thanks to the staff of my department for the work they have carried out during the year. They have all worked willingly and well as a small happy team.

SECTION D.

Prevalence of Infectious Disease.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The following cases were notified during the year ended 31st December, 1960:-

Scarlet Fever	- 19	Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	- 5
Measles	- 15	Tuberculosis (Non-Respiratory)	- 1
Whooping Cough	- 10	Dysentery	- 5
Acute Pneumonia	- 9	Erysipelas	- -
Food Poisoning	- 1		

The total number of notifications received was 65 compared with total of 225 during 1959.

Diphtheria.

There have been no cases of this condition in the District during the last seventeen years.

Poliomyelitis.

No cases of Poliomyelitis were reported.

Tuberculosis.

Five cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis and one case of Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis were notified during the year, and there were no deaths under this heading.

Particulars of the 61 cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register on 31st December, 1960 are as follows:-

	Respiratory Tuberculosis	Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis
Male	26	9
Female	17	9
Total.....	<u>43</u>	<u>18</u>

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1960.

Cause	Male	Female	Total
Diseases of Heart & Circulatory System	34	19	53
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	12	13	25
Malignant Diseases	13	13	26
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Pneumonia	3	3	6
Diabetes	2	1	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-	1
All other Accidents	3	-	3
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide & Operations of War	1	-	1
Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	-	-
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	-	-
Other causes	12	2	14
Total ..	82	52	134

Deaths from Cancer (all forms):-

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Population
Ludlow Rural District	26	1.91
County of Salop	540	1.79



APPENDIX.

Factories Act, 1937 to 1959.

1. Inspections for purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	13		-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	69	6	5	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-
Total.....	82	6	5	-

Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature(S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.5)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	4	-	4	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to out-workers)	-	-	-	-	-
Total.....	5	4	-	4	-



